

**MINNESOTA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

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**ALL FARM
PRODUCTS INDEX
UP 2 POINTS**

The November All Farm Products index for Minnesota was up 2 points from October.

The Crops index for November was down 1 point from October. Prices received by farmers for soybeans for November averaged \$5.77 per bushel, a decrease of 13 cents from the October price. Corn decreased 8 cents from October to a November price of \$2.05 per bushel.

The Meat Animal index increased 2 points from last month. The all hog price for November was \$56.90 per cwt., an increase of \$1.70 from the October price. The all beef cattle price for November was \$74.60, a decrease of 30 cents from the October price.

The Dairy Products index was up 7 points from last month. The all milk price for November, at \$16.50 per cwt., was up 60 cents from October.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity And Unit	U.S. Nov 2004 1/	Nov 2003 2/	Minnesota Oct 2004 2/	Nov 2004 1/
Barley, Feed & Malting, bu 3/	2.42	2.65	1.86	1.89
Beans, Dry Edible, All, cwt	27.20	21.20	26.40	3/
Kidney, cwt	4/	3/	3/	3/
Navy, cwt	4/	3/	3/	3/
Pinto, cwt	4/	3/	3/	3/
Corn, bu	2.00	2.07	2.13	2.05
Hay, All, Baled, ton	86.20	69.00	62.00	72.00
Alfalfa, Baled, ton	94.00	72.00	75.00	76.00
Other, Baled, ton	67.80	55.00	49.00	52.00
Oats, bu	1.36	1.32	1.28	1.29
Potatoes, cwt	4.98	4.90	5.70	5.55
Soybeans, bu	5.31	6.98	5.90	5.77
Sunflowers, All, cwt	13.20	13.20	17.40	3/
Wheat, All, bu	3.51	3.61	3.17	3.22
Calves, cwt	124.00	97.60	121.00	110.00
Cattle, All Beef, cwt 5/	84.20	88.60	74.90	74.60
Cows, cwt, 6/	48.60	54.30	52.30	50.00
Steers & Heifers, cwt	89.10	100.00	79.80	80.00
Milk Cows, head 7/	--	--	1,460.00	--
Hogs, All, cwt	55.30	36.30	55.20	56.90
Barrows & Gilts, cwt	55.80	36.30	55.30	57.00
Sows, cwt	44.50	29.40	43.10	46.00
Lambs, cwt 8/	--	89.90	88.80	--
Sheep, cwt 8/	--	32.30	37.10	--
Milk, All, cwt	15.80	14.90	15.90	16.50
Eggs, Table Market, doz	0.44	0.89	0.28	0.41

1/ Preliminary 2/ Entire month data 3/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms 4/ Price not set at the US level 5/ "cows" and "steers and heifers" combined. 6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 7/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published in Jan., Apr., Jul., and Oct. 8/ Preliminary prices discontinued Jan. 1996.

MINNESOTA INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED (1977=100)

Commodities	U.S.* Nov 2004 1/	Nov 2003 2/	Minnesota Oct 2004 2/	Nov 2004 1/
All Farm Products	114	139	139	141
Crops	110	123	115	114
Meat Animals	117	153	173	175
Dairy Products	121	169	180	187
Poultry & Eggs	118	128	94	102

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Entire month data.

* U.S. based on 1990-92=100 reference replaces 1977 = 100 beginning Jan. 1995.

U.S. INDEX SUMMARY (1990-92 = 100)

Item	Oct 2003	Nov 2003	Oct 2004	Nov 2004
Prices Received	113	116	113	114
Prices Paid (Interest, Taxes, Wage Rates)	129	129	135	134
Parity Ratio 1/	88	90	84	85

1/ Computed by dividing Prices Received Index by Prices Paid Index.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

1982-84=100: November 2003 184.5 November 2004 191.0

LAKE REGION HIRED WORKERS UNCHANGED FROM OCTOBER 2003

Lake Region: There were 72,000 hired workers on Lake Region (Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin) farms the week of October 10-16, 2004, unchanged from a year ago. Weather conditions in Minnesota during the survey week were cool and dry except for scattered showers at the end of the week, and sugarbeet harvest was in progress. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$9.77 per hour during the October 2004 survey week, up by 7 cents from October 2003. Field workers received an average of \$9.06 per hour, a 19-cent decrease from a year ago. Livestock workers earned \$9.51 per hour compared with \$9.11 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock Workers combined wage rate at \$9.20 per hour was unchanged from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 39.7 for hired workers during the survey week compared with 37.7 hours a year ago.

United States: There were 1,173,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2004, down 2 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 851,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 322,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.30 per hour during the October 2004 reference week, up 25 cents from a year ago. Field workers received an average of \$8.60 per hour, up 18 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$8.91 per hour compared with \$8.64 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.67 per hour, was up 20 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.5 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP SLIGHTLY

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on December 1, 2004. The inventory was slightly above December 1, 2003 and 4 percent above December 1, 2002.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 1.74 million, 10 percent below 2003 and 12 percent below 2002. This is the lowest placements for the month of November since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.64 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 590,000, 600-699 pounds were 557,000, 700-799 pounds were 326,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 270,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during November totaled 1.63 million, 6 percent above 2003 but 6 percent below 2002. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of November since the series began in 1996.

Other disappearance totaled 108,000 during November, 11 percent above 2003 and 20 percent above 2002.

Dairy Herd Health Management Results from NAHMS Dairy Study

In 2002, the National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) conducted a study of dairy operations in the United States. The Dairy 2002 study was conducted in 21 major dairy States and was designed to provide information to both participants and industry from operations representing 82.8 percent of U.S. dairy operations and 85.5 percent of U.S. dairy cows. The Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service has participated in collection of data for this and other NAHMS studies.

The following highlights were excerpted from the report: *Dairy 2002 Part III: Reference of Dairy Cattle Health and Health Management Practices in the United States, 2002*.

- The highest percentage of producers (54.6 percent) knew some basics about foot-and-mouth disease. Anthrax was recognized by name only by most producers (54.0 percent). The industry's awareness of Johne's disease has increased over the last few years due to concentrated efforts to educate producers and control the disease (Figure 1).
- Disease exclusion management practices regarding visitors, employee travel, and cattle source were evaluated by herd size. The percentage of operations using these practices at the time of the interview increased as herd size increased (Figure 2).
- Dairy 2002 producers were asked to identify the category of bulk tank somatic cell count (BTSCC) that best described the average BTSCC for milk shipped during the 90 days prior to the interview. Overall, the highest percentage of operations (34.5 percent) had an average BTSCC of 200,000 to 299,000. The next highest averaged BTSCCs of 100,000 to 199,000 (23.6 percent of operations) followed by 300,000 to 399,000 (21.7 percent of operations). Only 2.4 percent of operations had an average BTSCC of less than 100,000, while 2.7 percent had an average BTSCC of 600,000 or more.
- The percentage of lameness cases was similar across all herd sizes, with 20.4 percent of cows and 8.1 percent of bred heifers (as a percentage of cow and bred heifer inventory) having a case of lameness during the 12 months prior to the interview.

Figure 1. Percentage of Operations by Level of Familiarity with Johne's Disease (Paratuberculosis)

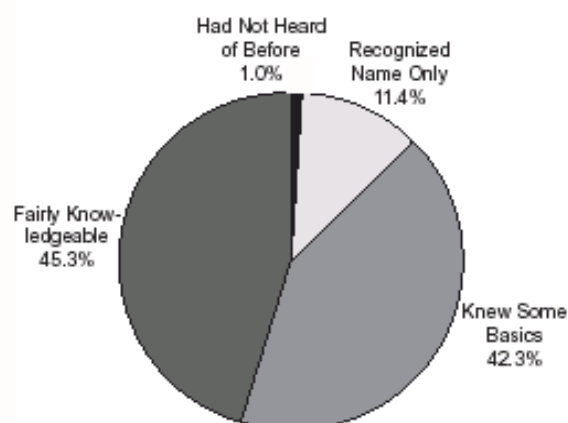
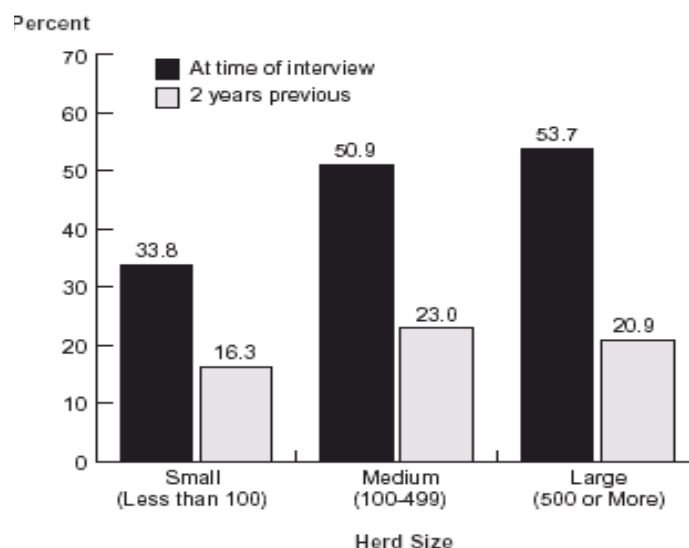


Figure 2. Percent of Operations that Used Guidelines (at the Time of the Interview and 2 Years Previously) that Determine Which Visitors were Allowed in Animal Areas, by Herd Size



- Over half of all lameness cases on U.S. dairy operations were attributed to digital dermatitis (hairy-heel warts). Producers reported that 53.9 percent of lameness cases in cows and 61.8 percent of lameness cases in bred heifers were due to digital dermatitis.
- Cull rates across the United States, which include cow deaths for Dairy Herd Improvement Association calculations, are generally reported to be between 30 and 35 percent. For Dairy 2002, 24.9 percent of cows were reported culled in 2001. (This percentage does not include cow deaths.) Large operations culled a larger percentage of cows (27.6 percent) than medium or small operations (23.5 and 23.3 percent, respectively).

Source: USDA - APHIS, Dairy 2002 Part III: Reference of Dairy Cattle Health and Health Management Practices in the United States, 2002. For further information, please see NAHMS website at: www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cahm

OCTOBER EGG OUTPUT UP 2% IN STATE

Minnesota layers produced 244 million eggs during October 2004 versus 240 million in October 2003, an increase of 2 percent. Laying flocks in the U.S. produced 7.64 billion eggs in October, up 3 percent from a year ago.

POULTRY STATS - OCTOBER

		2003	2004
Total Eggs Produced	MN	240 Mil.	244 Mil.
	U.S.	7,439 Mil.	7,643 Mil.
Number of Layers	MN	10.9 Mil.	10.8 Mil.
	U.S.	335.3 Mil.	344.2 Mil.
Eggs per 100 Layers	MN	2,206	2,265
	U.S.	2,218	2,221
CHICKENS:			
Hatched (October)			
Egg-Type	MN	1.1 Mil.	0.8 Mil.
	U.S.	34.8 Mil.	36.0 Mil.
Broiler-Type	U.S.	735.0 Mil.	757.5 Mil.
Eggs in Incubators (November 1)			
Egg-Type	WNC*	7.1 Mil.	8.1 Mil.
	U.S.	29.1 Mil.	37.0 Mil.
Broiler-Type	WNC*	19.5 Mil.	20.0 Mil.
	U.S.	587.9 Mil.	607.6 Mil.
TURKEYS:			
Placed (October)	WNC*	9.1 Mil.	8.1 Mil.
	U.S.	22.8 Mil.	20.8 Mil.
Eggs in Incubators (November 1)			
	WNC*	10.2 Mil.	10.6 Mil.
	U.S.	28.7 Mil.	27.4 Mil.

*West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North & South Dakota, Minnesota.)

NOVEMBER MILK OUTPUT DOWN 1% IN MINNESOTA

Totaling 639 million pounds, the state's November milk production was down 1 per cent from November 2003.

Output per cow was 1,390 pounds in November, the same as last November. Milk cows for November averaged 460,000 head, the same as revised October, but down 5,000 head from a year ago.

November 2004 milk output in the 20 major states was 11.85 billion pounds, up 1 percent from November 2003. Milk cows in the 20 states averaged 7.77 million head, up 44,000 from the previous year. At 1,526 pounds, production per cow was 9 pounds greater than November 2003.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2004 MILK STATS

State	Milk Production		Percent of Previous Year	
	Oct	Nov	Oct	Nov
	Million Lbs.		Percent	
California	3,080	2,960	105	105
Idaho	781	750	104	105
Minnesota	656	639	100	99
New York	956	911	99	98
Pennsylvania	825	799	101	101
Wisconsin	1,826	1,750	100	99
20 States	12,254	11,846	101	101

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